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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 54
47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY
Ray Begaye

A JOINT MEMORIAL
SUPPORTING THE SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN IN NEW MEXICO NAVAJO NATION
WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation
have negotiated the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico Navajo
Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement, referred to in this
memorial as the settlement agreement, that quantifies the
Navajo Nation's rights to use water of the San Juan river basin
in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2004, the Navajo Nation council
approved the settlement agreement and on January 12, 2005, the
interstate stream commission passed a resolution approving the
settlement agreement; and

WHEREAS, the state engineer, in his statutory duty to
guide the adjudication of all waters of the state of New

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1 Mexico, approves of the settlement agreement; and

2 WHEREAS, the settlement agreement fits within New Mexico's
3 apportionment under the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact and
4 provides benefits to the state of New Mexico and the Navajo
5 Nation, and provides substantial protections to other parties
6 to the San Juan river adjudication; and

7 WHEREAS, federal legislation will be necessary to
8 authorize the secretary of the interior to execute the
9 settlement agreement, and significant federal appropriations
10 will be necessary to fully implement the settlement agreement,
11 including funding for the proposed Navajo-Gallup water supply
12 project to supply needed water for municipal and domestic uses
13 in northwestern New Mexico;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it express its support of the San Juan
16 River Basin in New Mexico Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement
17 Agreement and request the members of New Mexico's congressional
18 delegation to introduce the legislation necessary for the
19 United States congress to approve and fully fund the federal
20 portions of the settlement agreement; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to New Mexico's congressional delegation, the
23 governor, the attorney general of New Mexico, the president of
24 the Navajo Nation, the intergovernmental relations committee of
25 the Navajo Nation council, the president of the Jicarilla

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1 Apache tribe, the city council of Gallup, the mayor of Gallup,
2 the city council of Farmington and the mayor of Farmington.

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